

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of monitoring a broadcast signal, the method comprising:

receiving, by an end user device, a broadcast signal, the broadcast signal including at least three components and a timebase,

monitoring the broadcast signal for an identification signal, and

pausing the received timebase, at unspecified time intervals, to accommodate at least interactive applications, if the identification signal is not present, wherein said timebase is a periodic clock inserted into one of the three data components, and

restarting the received timebase when the identification signal is present such that at least two of the three components are resynchronized with the interactive applications.

2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the broadcast signal comprises a video component, an audio component, and a data component.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the timebase is a periodic clock inserted into the data component of the broadcast signal.

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the broadcast signal is a digital signal and the identification signal is present in the data component of the broadcast signal.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the broadcast signal is an analogue signal and the identification signal is present in the vertical blanking interval of the broadcast signal.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the identification signal is present in the normal data structures describing the video component of the broadcast signal.

8. (Currently amended) An apparatus for monitoring a broadcast signal, the apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving the broadcast signal, the broadcast signal including at least three components and a timebase, and

monitoring means for monitoring the broadcast signal for an identification signal, and for pausing, at unspecified time intervals, to accommodate at least interactive applications, the received timebase if the identification signal is not present, wherein said timebase is a periodic clock inserted into one of the three data components, and

restarting means for restarting the received timebase when the identification signal is present such that at least two of the three components are resynchronized with the interactive applications.

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the signal comprises a video component, an audio component, and a data component.

10. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the received timebase is a periodic clock inserted into the data component of the broadcast signal.

11. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the receiving means and the monitoring means are portions of an integrated circuit.

12. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the apparatus is a digital television receiver.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the pausing step occurs due to insertion of additional information in the broadcast signal.

15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein the additional information is advertisements.

16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein the additional information is unannounced weather updates.

17. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the pausing of the monitoring means occurs due to insertion of additional information in the broadcast signal.

18. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the additional information is advertisements.

19. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the additional information is unannounced weather updates.